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THE EVENING BULLETIN
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Liberty Bell Sit-Ins Defended

I was surprised by the letters March 16 criticising the Liberty Bell sit-ins. These people seem to have misunderstood the significance of both the sit-ins and the Bell itself.

I doubt if anyone ever valued his life so cheaply as to die for either a broken bell or a colonial building. Many however, have died for what each symbolized: democracy and freedom.

Nothing could have made a larger mockery of either, or insulted more those men who died for democracy, than Governor Wallace's troopers blackjacking peaceful people

protesting "taxation without representation."

The students who sat in at Independence Hall were continuing the tradition of democratic protest started by the First Continental Congress. If anything the students added to the history and tradition of the building and Bell, by again using it for those purposes that made them a national shrine: the right to choose one's own leaders and make the laws.

John W. Little
Ardmore, Pa.

Jack J. Glickstein, in a letter to you, does not agree with the sympathy sit-ins in Indepen-

dence Hall because he says the pickets are publicity hounds. He also says that he would pay for paint and materials to clean the homes of poor Negro families that he knows.

Poor people are not just Negroes, and any liberties gained by Negroes is a gain for all other discriminated minorities, including poor whites. As for cleaning of homes, if he would just look around he could find many poor whites with dirty homes that need cleaning. I know he can, because I can. And he would have a much easier time looking since he is white also.

W. Ray Colbert
Springfield, Pa.

March 22, 1965, "Liberty Bell Sit-ins Defended" from the Evening Bulletin
From the collections of Independence National Historical Park